

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The claims are 1-6.

The above amendment is responsive to the comment in Official Action paragraph 2 that no weight can be given to the process limitation “after treatment with hydrogen fluoride”. This significant feature (see e.g. paragraphs [0017] to [0026] cannot be disregarded, especially in view of the above amendment which describes the quartz material in a descriptive manner and doesn’t require actual process steps.

Claims 1-5 have been rejected as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over JP 2004/290747 and claims 1-6 have been rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over JP 2004/290747 in view of JP 2004/290748.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Both references have an effective date of October 21, 2004 and are antedated by Applicants’ Japanese priority date of March 18, 2004.

An English translation of this priority application with Translator’s Certificate of accuracy is submitted herewith. The priority application supports the present claims in all essential respects.

Accordingly, the rejections on prior art should be withdrawn.

No further issues remaining, allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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